

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 COA-02

EB-11 COME-00 CG-00 DLOS-06 OMB-01 DRC-01 /168 W

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P R 071500Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4100

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

DEFENSE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1329

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, IC, NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS: STATUS OF GOVT.

1. GOI IS IN STATE OF CHAOS. THERE IS UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT PRIME MINISTER HAS THREATENED TO DISSOLVE GOVERNMENT IF THERE IS NOT UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF HIS UK FISHERIES AGREEMENT. SHOWDOWN WITH COMMUNIST PEOPLES ALLIANCE (PA), WHICH WAS SCHEDULED FOR THIS MORNING, HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL TOMORROW AT REQUEST OF PA.

2. KJARTANSSON HAS AGAIN DEMANDED ROLE IN IDF NEGOTIATIONS AND WAS AGAIN TURNED DOWN. STILL NOT DEFINITELY SETTLED IS KJARTANSSON'S OBSERVER PLOY, BUT FEELING HERE IS KJARTANSSON'S OFFENSIVE TACTICS ALMOST ENSURES THIS TOO WILL BE TURNED DOWN. IT IS RUMORED THAT PA FISHERIES MINISTER JOSEFSSON NOT SUPPORTING
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KJARTANSSON'S OBSTINACY ON BASE ISSUE AND FEELS ESSENTIAL PA

REMAIN IN GOVT AT ALL COST. PA MEMBERSHIP VIEWS ARE SPLIT AND PA HAS CALLED MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR TONIGHT TO FORMULATE COURSE OF ACTION.

3. PROGRESSIVE PARTY (PP), WHICH IS PARTY OF PRIME MINISTER AND FONMIN IS NEARING AN OPEN SPLIT, PITTING THE CONSERVATIVE WING AGAINST YOUNG PROGRESSIVES WING. REAL ISSUE IS YOUNG PROGRESSIVES' DISSATISFACTION IN BEING FROZEN OUT OF TOP PARTY COUNCIL AND FROM PARLIAMENTARY SEATS. THEY ARE THREATENING TO FORM NEW PARTY COMPOSED OF ANTI-IDF ELEMENTS OF ALL OTHER PARTIES, USING IDF SENTIMENT AS RALLYING POINT.

4. DESPITE ABOVE-CITED STRAINS FONMIN PROCEEDING WITH PLANS FOR IDF NEGOTIATING SESSIONS NEXT WEEK AS PLANNED FONMINISTRY ISSUED BRIEF PRESS NOTICE STATING NEGOTIATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN REYKJAVIK DURING PERIOD NOV 13-15.

5. STRAW POLL OF PARLIAMENT MEMBERS ON IDF ISSUE TAKEN BY GEIR HALLGRIMSSON, CHAIRMAN OF INDEPENDENCE PARTY, NOW SHOWS 38 MEMBERS IN FAVOR OF RETENTION WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS, HOWEVER. THIS COMPARES WITH 38 IN APRIL PRIOR TO UK FISHERIES FRIGATE ACTION AND 31 OR 32 IN AUGUST. 32 VOTES CONSTITUTE A MAJORITY.

IRVING

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Message Attributes

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